

REMARKS

The present application was filed on July 15, 2003 with claims 1-19, all of which currently stand rejected. Claims 1, 18 and 19 are the pending independent claims.

The specification is objected to due to a need to update related application information.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 12-14 and 16-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Boggio et al., "NetworkDesigner - Artifex - OptSim: A Suite of Integrated Software Tools for Synthesis and Analysis of High Speed Networks," Optical Networks Magazine, Sept/Oct 2001, pages 27-41 (hereinafter "Boggio").

Claims 3, 4, 8, 9-11 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Boggio in view of Sun et al., "Simulation Studies of Multiplexing and Demultiplexing Performance in ATM Switch Fabrics," Performance Engineering in Telecommunications Network Teletraffic Symposium, 14-16 Apr. 1993, pages 21/1 – 21/5 (hereinafter "Sun").

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Boggio in view of Ishida et al., "A 10-GHz 8-b Multiplexer/Demultiplexer Chip Set for the SONET STS-192 System," IEEE Journal of Solid-State Circuits, Vol. 26, No. 12, Dec. 1991, pages 1936-1943 (hereinafter "Ishida").

In this response, Applicants amend the specification to address the above-noted objection, amend claims 1, 3-15 and 17-19, and cancel claim 2. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the amendments above and remarks below.

Independent claims 1, 18 and 19 have each been amended to more clearly and distinctly set forth the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. More specifically, the claims as amended involve automatic generation of simulation configurations for at least one switch fabric comprising a plurality of integrated circuits.

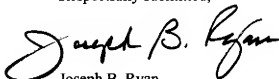
In view of the amendments, the Boggio reference appears to represent non-analogous art relative to the claimed invention. Moreover, the Sun reference appears to teach away from the added limitations by teaching the use of a single switch fabric configuration in FIG. 2 thereof, and indicating at page 21/3, first paragraph, that "[d]imensioning the switch fabric" beyond the "simple configuration" of FIG. 2 is "beyond the scope" of its disclosure. Accordingly, it is believed that the collective teachings of Boggio and Sun fail to meet the limitations of claims 1, 18 and 19 as amended.

The Ishida reference fails to supplement the above-noted fundamental deficiencies of Boggio and Sun relative to the amended claims.

Dependent claims 3-17 are believed allowable for at least the reasons identified above with regard to claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, claims 1 and 3-19 as amended are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph B. Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joseph" being more prominent and the last name "Ryan" following in a similar style.

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